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I'm a college student at Western Washington University, who's currently enrolled in a course called Introduction to Mass Media. During this course, I've learned a great deal about the ownership of media such as newspapers and television stations. It's come to my attention that the number of companies who own these media is rapidly dwindling. Major mergers such as AOL/Time Warner and ABC/Disney may seem at first like a great economic opportunity. But for us, the audience and consumers, major mergers mean limited choice. What's more scary to me though, is when a company such as AOL/Time Warner owns SOOO many other companies (TNN, the Cartoon Network for example) a conflict of interests is bound to arise. This conflict of interests means information may be purposefully withheld from the public, or certain issues may be obscured and watered down. Anyway, I'm just very concerned that the seven major companies who now control MOST of the media in our country will turn to six, five, four, and so on. Please, as consumers and citizens yourselves, I ask you remain firm on rules which limit broadcast ownership. Thank you so much!

Elissa Ball